
GROSSMONT COLLEGE STATEMENT

As members of the California Community College Athletic Association and the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference, Grossmont College places strong emphasis on self-reporting as a means of maintaining, and modeling for students, high ethical standards in its athletics programs. When college personnel discover that errors have been made in maintaining the standards of the CCCAA, those are immediately reported to our regional conference, PCAC, and self-imposed and corrective actions are pursued in partnership with the conference. This is common practice among California community colleges, which maintain complex athletics programs with intricate rules and busy schedules, while working with students with frequently shifting eligibility.

As a result of a self-initiated investigative process to clarify the conditions under which college facilities were rented by college members, college executive leadership became aware of incorrect practices in relation to the college's baseball team and those violations were properly reported to the athletic conference by members of the executive leadership team. College personnel, along with representatives from the conference, generated a report that was then reviewed by CCCAA. Grossmont College has since accepted appropriate guidance, corrective actions and required sanctions from its conference (PCAC), and implemented self-imposed sanctions (GC), including:

- The Grossmont College Athletic Department is on formal probation for one year beginning November 1, 2018, including three years of informal probation (PCAC).
- The Grossmont College baseball program is on formal probation for two years, followed by three years of informal probation (PCAC).
- The Grossmont College baseball team will be banned from in-state recruiting for one year (PCAC).
- Head Baseball Coach Randy Abshier was suspended for the first six (6) games of the 2019 season. No involvement with the team was allowed during the six (6) games, including practices and games (GC).
- Assistant Coaches Sam Pepper and Robert Aguirre were suspended for three (3) games each. No involvement with the team was allowed during the three (3) games, including practices and games. The assistant coaches' suspensions were within the six-game timeframe levied against the head baseball coach, but were staggered to allow for proper supervision of the 2019 baseball team (GC).
- Grossmont College is not allowed to provide rental use of the baseball field for a spring/summer baseball league for two consecutive years (GC).

- Grossmont College administration will not allow incoming or returning players with eligibility to participate in baseball leagues operating on the Grossmont College campus following the two-year restriction (GC).
- No members of the Grossmont College baseball staff will be allowed to participate as coaches or administrators in any baseball league operating on the Grossmont College campus following the two-year restriction (GC).

Additionally, and more importantly, the college has put into practice better education and reviews to ensure these violations do not occur in the future.

Neither Mr. Armstrong, nor any employee, would be punished for reporting athletics violations. In the spirit of maintaining the college's compliance with the CCCAA Constitution and bylaws, it is in the interest of the college to hear of any concerns.

Grossmont College and the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District cannot comment on the specifics of Mr. Armstrong's departure from Grossmont College as it is a personnel matter.